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ABERDEEN MAN SENTENCED FOR TRANSMITTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY OVER THE INTERNET

BALTIMORE – Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that United States District Court Judge J. Frederick Motz today sentenced William Dale Piper, age 43, of Aberdeen, Maryland to 2 years in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release arising from his guilty plea entered on March 11, 2004 to transportation and shipment of child pornography in interstate and foreign commerce by means of a computer.

According to an agreed statement of facts filed in court, on January 17, 2003 a special agent of the Buffalo Division of the FBI, while acting in an undercover capacity, located and entered an America-on-Line ("AOL") chat room and downloaded several images, several of which came from Piper. The agent and Piper began a private on-line AOL chat session during which the agent asked Piper if he had any videos or still images. Thereafter, Piper sent the agent an e-mail with an attached image depicting sexually explicit conduct between an adult male and a pre-pubescent girl. Pursuant to a subpoena, AOL reported that the account holder for the screen name HDSFOR92 was Piper.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Norman.